

# ALONE, LOCKED IN A ROOM, TWO TOPEKA MEXICANS FIGHT TO EXHAUSTION IN A RIVAL TO "THE SPOILERS"

Nothing in Police Records  
Equals Augustin Alba's Melee.

Arrest of Francisco Navarra  
Bloodiest in Local History.

SENT SEVEN SHOTS TO HIS BODY

When Proclaimed Dead Na-  
varra Swore Thru Torn Jaw.

In Pen Now, but Alba Has Lost  
No Love for Him.

"Francisco Navarra, Alba, commit-  
ment, 7:10 p. m., laborer, Mexican."  
That line appears in the Topeka  
police docket of the month of March,  
1915. It contains no thrills. It is  
simply the commonplace record of an  
arrest made by Augustin Alba, plain-  
clothesman, and any one looking for a  
story would pass it over, for Alba has  
made many arrests and Mexicans are  
frequent offenders in Topeka.



Augustin Alba, Topeka plainclothes-  
man, who fought duel with Na-  
varra.

But behind that uninteresting line,  
scrawled by some drowsy desk ser-  
vant, lies the story of a red blood en-  
counter between two Mexicans which  
made Alba a name feared and hated  
by his countrymen and sent Francisco  
Navarra to the state penitentiary for  
an indeterminate sentence.

Navarra is a name well known in  
Mexico. A generation ago the elder  
Navarra owned a big hacienda in that  
country. How he accumulated it is  
not a part of this story but during the  
years he was amassing his fortune he  
also established a reputation as a kill-  
er. A dozen times plans were laid by  
enemies to take his life but for some  
reason or other, probably because Na-  
varra was quicker on the trigger, the  
man selected to do the killing always  
came out second best. He thrived on  
gun fighting and when his enemies  
finally did kill him he was intoxicated  
and fighting at odds of one to six.

A son took up the feud and carried  
it on for five years then he, too, fell  
loaded down with lead fired by  
enemies in ambush. Francisco Navarra  
was the only male member of the  
family left. He took up the battle  
where his elder brother left it and en-  
joyed it. But when all northern Mex-  
ico became a bandit camp he crossed  
over the line and drifted to the Mex-  
ican settlement in Topeka. He came  
from a line of fighters and was in  
trouble continuously.

It was a cold, bleak day in March  
when Chief Ross, now dead, handed a  
commitment to Alba with instruc-  
tions to go down on First street and  
bring Navarra in. He had been con-  
victed of some minor offense and was  
wanted at the jail.

He Took His Gun.  
Alba took the papers and while he  
had no fear of trouble he strapped on  
his six-shooter as a matter of precau-  
tion. What he did not know and  
what the police did not know was that  
on the previous day Navarra had fired  
two shots at three women down at  
Lebo, and that he feared arrest be-  
cause of that.

Navarra was at the First street ad-

dress. He met Alba at the door.  
"Smoke you want?" he demanded.  
"Hello, Frank," said Alba, "I have a  
commitment here for you."  
"The — you have?"  
"Want me to read it to you?"  
"Come on in and read it."  
Alba stepped inside and pulled out  
the papers. He began reading. Na-  
varra whipped out a revolver while  
Alba's eyes were on the paper. Alba's  
right hand struck the revolver as Na-  
varra pulled the trigger. Instead of  
puncturing Alba's heart as was in-  
tended, the bullet plowed its way  
through his groin and down through  
his right leg.

The Fight Begins.  
Wounded and bleeding Alba grasped  
the revolver and grappled with Na-  
varra. He began reading. Na-  
varra whipped out a revolver while  
Alba's eyes were on the paper. Alba's  
right hand struck the revolver as Na-  
varra pulled the trigger. Instead of  
puncturing Alba's heart as was in-  
tended, the bullet plowed its way  
through his groin and down through  
his right leg.

After fifteen minutes of sharp hand-  
to-hand conflict Alba wrenched the  
gun away from Navarra.  
"Now listen, Frank," panted Alba.  
"I'm the best man, why don't you give  
up."  
"You lie," shrieked Navarra. "You  
are an enemy to your countrymen.  
You arrest them for the gringos.  
You're a snake," and through the haze  
of smoke he made a dash for a shelf  
and came back with a glistering  
weapon in his right hand.

"Better give up," counseled  
Alba. "I'm the best man."  
"To — with you," yelled Navarra,  
and plunged at the officer again.

Shot With His Own Gun.  
With Navarra's own gun Alba shot  
him through the chest. Navarra didn't  
even hesitate. He lunged again and  
Alba discovered his weapon was a  
knife. He shot him again through the  
chest. That was the last shell left in  
the gun Navarra had first used and  
Alba pulled his own gun.

Again he urged Navarra to quit and  
submit to arrest. Again Navarra his-  
tered Alba with Mexican profanity.  
The knife flashed through the gloom  
of smoke and Alba fired. Another  
bullet crashed into his body but Alba  
was unable to detect any weakening in  
his opponent. Other shots were fired.  
None of them missed its mark. Alba  
was warding off the knife thrusts  
with his hat clutched in his left hand.

Alba and he fired at Navarra's head.  
The bullet entered high on one side  
of the face, passed through the jaw  
and out on the other side.  
Navarra sank to the floor, the mur-  
derous knife still clutched in his right  
hand.

Alba fell over upon a pile of  
wrecked furniture completely ex-  
hausted. He had been bleeding from  
his wound since the first shot was  
fired. After long minutes he recov-  
ered sufficiently to work his way to  
a window and call Officer Brush, who  
happened to be passing.

What Brush Found.  
Brush found the two men locked  
inside by the falling furniture. Neither  
could have escaped if he had wanted to.  
Brush forced his way in and  
looked at the two men. Alba  
stretched out on a broken table and  
Navarra on the floor in a pool of his  
own blood.

"For God's sake, what happened?"  
he asked.

"Oh, we had quite a fight," said  
Alba, pointing to Navarra.

Brush poked his foot into Navarra's  
ribs.  
"This Mexican's dead," he re-  
marked.

Navarra sat up. "You're a —  
liar," he yelled between mouthfuls of  
blood, teeth and splintered jawbone.

"If he isn't dead arrest him," said  
Alba.

"He's your man," said Brush.  
Navarra was taken to the station,  
then given treatment. In spite of the  
loss of blood and the numerous holes  
in his anatomy he recovered and is  
now serving time at Lansing for his  
murderous attack on Alba. Alba went  
to a hospital and gradually recovered  
from his wound but as long as he  
lives he will feel the effects.

"I haven't lost any love for Na-  
varra," said Alba the other day when  
the subject was brought up, "but I  
give him credit for being a good  
fighter and having the nerve to back  
him up."

## New August Records

On Sale NOW

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plete stock in the state

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RECORDS

## Local News Events of the Past Week

As Depicted By Bolmar

SUNDAY.

MONDAY.

TUESDAY.

WEDNESDAY.



A committee from the Retail Gro-  
cery Clerk association went a spot-  
ting for grocers who violate the Sun-  
day closing ordinance.



Consternation and horror in the  
circles of local mosquitos, all stag-  
nant pools ordered filled up by board  
of health.



Gage lake having been charged with  
being unsanitary, Commissioner Por-  
ter proceeded to secure sample of wa-  
ter for analysis.



Topeka heard good news. The  
Union Pacific railway admitted it will  
locate repair shops and material yards  
in this city.



Mercury in the clutch of a "Bermu-  
da High" continued to soar, and the  
heat-tortured people continued to  
sweat.



Ballots and other election supplies  
were distributed among the various  
voting precincts for use at next Tues-  
day's primaries.



The vast legion of candidates, mind-  
ful of the rapidly dwindling time,  
put in their "best legs" before Tues-  
day's primaries.



State and county primary election  
day Tuesday, August 1. The very  
long ticket means heavy work for elec-  
tion boards.

## WATER AND A RAG

All in an Innocent Looking  
Bottle—Weapon of I. W. W.

If Exposed to Air It Will Burst  
Into Flame.

IN FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE

Assistant Pursued Band of In-  
cendiaries Over State.

Found Method of Setting Fire  
to the Wheat Stacks.

In the office of the state fire mar-  
shal is an innocent looking bottle con-  
taining water, a rag and a small lump  
of what appears to be cheese. If the  
water does not touch it, the cheese  
shortly begins to smoke. If exposed  
to the air for a few moments it will  
burst into flame. If the flame be  
brought in contact with an inflam-  
mable substance it will shortly assume  
the proportions of a conflagration.  
On this simple principle the I. W. W.  
has carried on an extensive cam-  
paign in the harvest fields this sum-  
mer. The moist rag is wrapped  
around a small chunk of phosphorus,  
the phosphorus is slipped into a  
what looks like the I. W. W. makes  
himself scarce, and when the rag dries  
out the stack is ignited.

Fire marshal, assistant state  
fire marshal, has been pursuing a band  
of these incendiaries across the state.  
They have destroyed many stacks and  
been hastily searched for the con-  
cealed torch. In each case one of  
the little machines was found. Stude-  
baker trailed the I. W. W. a mem-  
ber, sometimes losing them but al-  
ways picking up the trail again until  
he forced them, by constant pursuit  
to quit the state. The bottle in the  
fire marshal's office Studebaker took from  
a stack in Barton county.

Form Chain Gang.  
It is reported that sentiment over  
the state strongly favors the forma-  
tion of a chain gang to consist prin-  
cipally of I. W. W. members, who  
might put in their otherwise valueless  
time at a little labor on the roads. The  
members of the organization, if organ-  
ized it may be called, have been  
particularly bold this summer, since  
from the absence of the state guard  
on the border, it is impossible to af-  
ford to the afflicted communities the  
protection they should have. It is a  
frequent occurrence for a gang of  
twenty to thirty men to visit a farm, take  
charge of the premises, and compel  
the farmer's wife to feed the bunch.  
Hundreds of them take possession of  
freight trains. Murders and assaults  
are frequent, and the reputation of  
Kansas as a law-abiding community  
has suffered.

It is conceded that before the next  
harvest, if conditions do not change  
radically in the meantime, steps must  
be taken to stop the lawlessness that is  
becoming characteristic of the harvest  
season.

ENGLAND BARS "DOPE"

Royal Proclamation Prohibits Impor-  
tation of Cocaine and Opium.

London, July 28.—The importation  
of opium and cocaine into the United  
Kingdom is prohibited by a royal  
proclamation.

There has been considerable agita-  
tion lately in this country against the  
sale of cocaine which it is said has  
been used in increasing quantities dur-  
ing the past few years and particularly  
has become the habit of many people  
since the outbreak of the war.

## THE UNITED STATES PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE ASKS

DO YOU  
Think dog muzzling cruel and then  
Marvel at the spread of rabies?

Carefully select your brand of liquor and then  
Feed your children unpasteurized milk?

Repeat the Golden Rule and then  
Sneeze in somebody's face?

Go camping for your health and then  
Place your toilet so that it drains into your water supply?

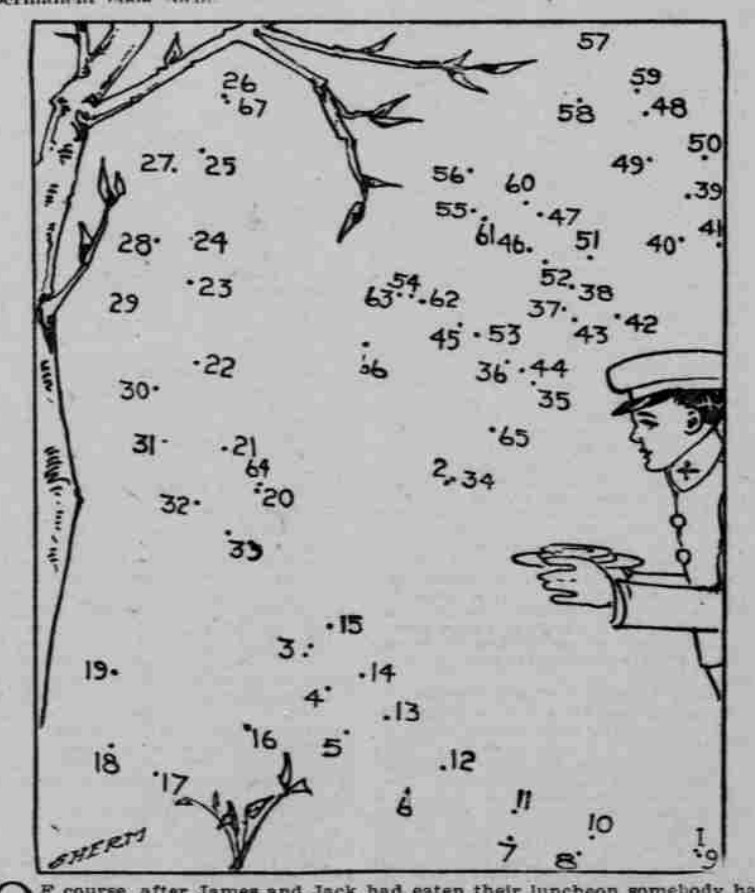
SAVED RAILROAD HEAD

Wife of Section Foreman Stopped Spe-  
cial Train Near Landslide.

Port Jarvis, N. M., July 28.—The  
story of how Mrs. Alfred Mallett, wife  
of an Erie section foreman at Shohola,  
Pa., saved Frederick D. Underwood,  
president of the road, President A. L.  
Mohler, of the Union Pacific, and other  
persons on a special train en route  
to New York from Chicago Wednes-  
day night, when a landslide blocked  
the train near Mrs. Mallett's home,  
has become known.  
She secured a red flag and ran as  
fast as she could through a terrific  
thunderstorm for more than a mile  
to head off the special. The train  
was going fifty miles an hour when

## THE DOT PREPAREDNESS

To find out what the Indians always carried with them, join the dots with  
a pencil line, beginning with Dot No. 1 and taking them in numerical order.  
Then cut out and paste each day's picture in a scrap book, and when the  
last one is printed, you will have "The Dot Preparedness" story complete in  
permanent book form.



Of course, after James and Jack had eaten their luncheon somebody had  
to wash the dishes, and this day it was James' turn. But he just  
couldn't get away from the idea that the people who came to this  
better read up on history. The Indians knew something about preparedness  
Jack just laughed when he heard James speak of it, and said: "You had  
better read up on history. The Indians knew something about preparedness  
themselves. Why, they hardly ever went any place without  
and

## A BUSINESS BY TOPEKANS IN BIG TOOL OUTPUT

Baird Pneumatic Tool Company  
Has Growing Business.

Sale of Equipment to Largest  
Manufacturers in U. S.

ONE PLANT WORKING NIGHTS

Local Concern Making Ma-  
terials for Selling Firm.

Directors May Decide Later on  
Building Here.

Rome wasn't built in a day, neither  
was it built with a lot of overhead  
expenses at the beginning. Two young  
men, it is said, started out with lots  
of ambition and very little capital.

They couldn't hire a mayor or com-  
missioner of parks so they decided to  
eliminate those overhead expenses and  
build a city first and hire a mayor  
when their capital grew enough and  
there was a demand for one.  
They picked out a location on seven  
hills which served as natural barriers  
against invading armies, wild animals  
and land grabbing rulers and other  
things and advertised they had some-  
thing very desirable. They built mud  
walls and created a demand for sub-  
urban property before they put a dol-  
lar into the city thereby eliminating  
overhead expenses and creating a de-  
mand before sinking a lot of money.

On the theory of creating a demand  
first and overhead expenses last a  
Topeka manufacturing concern, the  
Baird Pneumatic Tool company, started  
out to establish itself here.

Manufacturing concerns have been  
started in Kansas and failed. What  
was wrong? Stockholders of the Baird  
company investigated before launch-  
ing their project and thought they  
found the solution of the problem.  
We, they said, will not build a big  
factory and spend a lot of money for  
expensive buildings and machinery.  
We will eliminate this overhead ex-  
pense and let other foundries and  
shops make our products until we  
create a demand. When the country  
finds out we have something it needs  
and we are getting orders regularly  
we will talk about a factory of our  
own.

The business of the Baird Pneu-  
matic Tool company, which began  
taking orders only a few months ago,  
is growing increasingly steady. One of  
the plants here in Topeka which is  
making its product is running day  
and night. Besides that, a plant in  
Kansas City and another in Chicago  
are making the tools which the com-  
pany sells. The gross business of the  
new company will exceed \$40,000 in a  
few days.

Topekan the Inventor.  
A. M. Baird, formerly assistant  
superintendent of the Santa Fe shops,  
is the inventor of the Baird pneumatic  
tool and president of the Baird com-  
pany. He was the first man to place  
a pneumatic tool that would work in  
the Santa Fe shops here. The tools  
are simple. As the result large steel  
mills and railroads are buying. The  
company is working out its theory of  
creating a demand first and the fol-  
lowing concerns are now using the  
tools.

The Company's Patrons.  
The Santa Fe, Kansas City Rail-  
ways company. The Great Lakes  
Dredge & Dock company, Chicago.  
The Pullman Car company, the Amer-  
ican Steel Foundries, the Carnegie  
Steel company, the Conical Supply  
company, Wilmington, Iron Works, the  
Kansas City Southern railway, the  
German-American Car company, the  
Chicago, St. Paul, M. & O. railway,  
the Missouri, Kansas & Texas rail-  
way, the Missouri Pacific, the South-  
ern Pacific, the Denver & Rio Grande  
railway and others.

The product of the Baird company  
is limited to pneumatic tools. The  
variety is shown by the fact that the  
smallest tool weighs six pounds while  
the largest weighs fifteen tons.

The business of the company is  
growing. A demand practically has  
been made. In the future the direc-  
tors may get together and establish a  
factory here. They will carry very  
little to local business. This pro-  
duct is used in the great steel mills and  
factories of the east.

Following are the officers and direc-  
tors: A. M. Baird, president; L. G.  
Harper, secretary; F. M. Wright,  
treasurer; E. D. McKee, W. R. Car-  
rie, H. A. Spelman and D. M. Well-  
man.

President Prudential Trust  
Co., Topeka, Kan.  
(Advertisement.)

## TO JAMES WHITCOMB RILEY

Well, goodbye, Jim; take heed yourself.  
You crossed the Great Divide.  
Ver with that dear old sweetheart, Jim.  
There on the other side.  
A tear in Orinthus' eye.  
A lump in Sifers' throat.  
Ah! Jim, they're quite a raft of us  
That's in the same old boat.

Well, goodbye, Jim; take heed yourself.  
Ver dead, but still you'll live  
In human hearts as long as God  
Has human life to give.  
You belonged to Him, Jim, anyway.  
Ah! Jim, they're quite a raft of us  
That's in the same old boat.  
A nation's everlasting love  
Shall be your monument.  
—Bide Dudley.

## PROBE WEST COAL FIELD

Federal Inquiry Covering Six States  
Open in Denver.

Denver, July 29.—The federal gov-  
ernment's investigation into coal trade  
conditions in the west is in session  
today before E. N. Hurley, chairman  
of the federal trade commission.  
More than fifty prominent coal oper-  
ators representing the states of Wash-  
ington, Montana, Wyoming, Utah,  
New Mexico and Colorado were pre-  
sent.

Subjects to be taken up include  
methods of mining, trade methods, the  
financial conditions of the industry and  
precautions taken for the safety of  
employees.  
The purpose of the investigation ac-  
cording to Mr. Hurley is to benefit the  
industry as a whole. He declared that  
in many aspects the condition of the  
coal mining business is not satisfac-  
tory from the standpoint of the gen-  
eral public welfare.

Furnace repairs at Forbes—Adv.



Miss M'Edna Corbet

Republican Candidate for

Supt. of Public Instruction

Part 4

The candidacy of Miss Cor-  
bet for County Superintendent  
of Schools must appeal  
strongly to the citizens of the  
county.

She is a fine type of the  
Kansas girl who, by ability  
and pluck, has won her place  
under the sun, and who is re-  
cognized by all who knew her  
as fully equipped, mentally,  
morally and physically, to  
splendidly perform the duties  
of the office to which she  
now aspires.

Her voice and presence in  
the school room of the coun-  
ty will inspire new activity  
among the boys and girls to  
likewise prepare themselves  
to do something worth while  
in the line of good citizen-  
ship.

SCOTT HOPKINS.

President Prudential Trust  
Co., Topeka, Kan.

(Advertisement.)

## TOPEKA, WED., AUG. 9

## BARNUM AND BAILEY

GREATEST SHOW ON EARTH

1400 PERSONS 785 HORSES

AND THE NEW ORIENTAL PAGEANT OR THE PERSIA PAGEANTS OF THE THOUSAND AND ONE NIGHTS MOST MAGNIFICENT DISPLAY EVER CONCEIVED

3500 COSTUMES 350 MUSICIANS

AN ALL NEW CIRCUS OF ALL NATIONS

60 RIDERS AND THE WONDERFUL HANNEFORDS

65 RR. CARS OF WORLD WONDERS SCORES OF NEW FOREIGN NOVELTIES \$5,000,000 INVESTED \$7,500 DAILY EXPENSE

AT 10 O'CLOCK AM BIG NEW STREET PARADE PRECEDING FIRST PERFORMANCE 2 PLACES 12 YEARS 2 PLACES 12 YEARS 2 PLACES 12 YEARS

ONE 50¢ TICKET ADMITS TO ALL CHAIRS, BALCONY, BOXES, ORCHES-TRA, GRAND STAGE, AND ALL OTHERS. Same prices as charged at show grounds.

Tickets on sale show day at Rowley Drug Store, 600 Kansas Avenue.